

In re Patent Application of
ERRATICO
Serial No. 09/899,573
Filed: JULY 5, 2001

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the careful and thorough examination of the present application, and for the courtesy extending during the telephone interviews. By this amendment, Claims 12 and 17 have been amended to include subject matter indicated as allowable during the discussions with the Examiner, and to further define over the cited references. Claims 13, 14 and 22-31 have been canceled for consistency, and Claims 12 and 15-21 remain pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

As discussed during the telephone interviews, there is simply no teaching or suggestion in the cited references of the Final Office Action to provide the combination of features as claimed. Furthermore, during a telephone interview, the Examiner mentioned a concern with the previously cited reference to Kobayashi (U.S. 5,476,809) with respect to the amended claims. However, after further analysis and discussion by Applicant and the Examiner, it has been agreed that the claims as amended above also define over the Kobayashi patent. At a minimum, it was noted that Kobayashi does not disclose an isolating element surrounding the first or second region on all sides, as claimed.

Accordingly, Applicants maintain that the none of the cited references discloses or fairly suggests the invention as set forth in Claims 12 and 17. Furthermore, no proper modification of the teachings of these references could

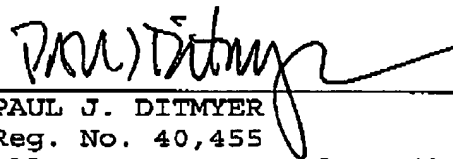
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result in the invention as claimed. Thus, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) should be withdrawn.

It is submitted that the independent claims are patentable over the prior art. In view of the patentability of the independent claims, it is submitted that their dependent claims, which recite yet further distinguishing features are also patentable over the cited references for at least the reasons set forth above. Accordingly, these dependent claims require no further discussion herein.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. An early notice thereof is earnestly solicited. If, after reviewing this Response, there are any remaining informalities which need to be resolved before the application can be passed to issue, the Examiner is invited and respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone in order to resolve such informalities.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing correspondence has
been forwarded via facsimile number 703-872-9306 to the
Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-
1450 this 28th day of June, 2004.

Dawn K. Lima